

## DESCRIPTION OF A CHARMOSINOPSIS.

A small gathering of Psittacine birds, the last collection brought from British New Guinea by the late Lieutenant-Governor, Sir W. Macgregor, has indeed served to increase the number of examples of certain species of the birds of that kind and place in cabinet, but, unfortunately, has its value diminished by infrequency of information about the specimens; even the habitat being in the majority of cases unrecorded. Its contents are as follows:—*Microglossus aterrimus*, one example, without label; *Aprosmictus chloropterus*, male and female, no label; *Psittacella picta*, "Wharton Range, at 11,100 feet, male, July, 1897, iris—lemon-yellow, beak—yellow, feet—dark grey, food—fruits"; *Coriphilus placens*, four males and two females, no label; *Cyclopsittacus suavissimus*, "Mambare River, male, July, 1897, iris—yellow, beak—dark grey, feet—dull green, food—fruits"; *Geofroyus aruensis*, male and female, no label; *Charmosina stella*, three examples, no label. In addition to these there is a *Charmosinopsis*, which, if previously collected, does not seem, as far as I can ascertain, to have been distinguished from *C. pulchella*, of the Astrolabe Mountains, with which, however, it can hardly be considered identical.

## DIAGNOSIS.

*Charmosinopsis* sp., male, with the thighs purplish-black and the yellow shaft-streaks confined to the pectoral region. Female, with yellow shaft streaks on most of the purplish-black feathers of the thigh. Young, with the nape and thighs green, and with a yellow band across the under surface of the wing.

Probably the bird was met with on the Wharton Range, but no definite information to that effect accompanies the six examples collected—viz., two males, three females, and one of doubtful sex in immature plumage.

## DESCRIPTION.

## ADULT MALE, Plate VIII.

Most of the head above and all of it below, nape, sides of rump and whole under surface (including the lower flanks) red; occiput dull purplish black; rump slate-green; rest of upper surface and upper tail-coverts and outer edges of all the primaries, except the first, bright grass green; central tail feathers dull green on proximal half of upper surface, on distal half red passing into yellow at the tip; proximal half of laterals red, broadly edged with green; distal half yellow; the red base and green edges diminishing successively towards the outermost; feathers of upper breast with yellow shaft-streaks; wings black above, slate-black below; under wing-coverts and edge of wing red, more or less tipped with green; beak yellow, tips of both mandibles blackish. Length 180 mm., wing 90 mm., tail 105 mm., culmen 12.5 mm., tarsus 7 mm.



F. Elliott del.

*Charmosynopsis bella*

1831 F. 30

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## FEMALE.

Similar to the male, but with the sides of the rump and the lower flanks yellow, and with yellow shaft-streaks on several of the tarsal feathers ; rump more or less distinctly barred with green tips.

## IMMATURE, — SEX ?

Occiput anteriorly purplish-black, some of its feathers tipped with green ; nape and shoulders red, barred with green tips ; rest of upper surface green ; sides of rump yellow ; head to occiput and under surface red ; most of the feathers of the upper breast and some on the abdomen tipped with green, the former with premonitions of yellow shaft-streaks ; lower flanks yellowish green ; thighs greenish-black ; on the under surface of the wing a yellow band formed by the basal moiety of all but the four outermost primaries being of that colour.

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